



# County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION  
(619) 338-2222 FAX (619) 338-23771-800-253-9933



## MANAGEMENT OF REGULATED WASTES GENERATED BY DENTAL, VETERINARY & MEDICAL PRACTICES CONTAINMENT & LABELING

	BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE	SHARPS WASTE READY FOR DISPOSAL	PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE	PATHOLOGY WASTE	CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE	
					Non-pourable	Pourable
<b>CONTAINER TYPES</b>	Red biohazard bag inside a clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair.	Rigid, puncture-resistant container that, when sealed, is leak resistant and cannot be opened without great difficulty.	Clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair with tight fitting cover.	Clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair with tight fitting cover.	Sharps Container or red biohazard bags	Hazardous waste container
<b>WASTE and CONTAINER MANAGEMENT</b>	Tie bags to prevent spillage	May place sharps containers ready for disposal in biohazard bags or containers with biohazard bags.	Only NON-RCRA* pharmaceutical waste can be managed as medical waste. RCRA** pharmaceutical waste <b>must</b> be managed as hazardous waste. *California-only hazardous waste **Federal hazardous waste (due to federal listing or waste characteristics).	Recognizable human anatomical parts must be managed as pathology waste.	Only trace chemotherapy (<3% by weight) can be managed as medical waste	Bulk chemo therapy (≥3% by weight) must be managed as a hazardous waste
<b>SEGREGATION</b>	Segregate from other wastes and label as described below					
<b>CONTAINER LABELING</b>	Generator's label & either: "Biohazardous Waste" or International Biohazard symbol and word "BIOHAZARD"	Generator's label & on lids and sides of container either: "Sharps Waste" or International Biohazard symbol and word "BIOHAZARD"	Generator's label & "Incineration Only" on lids and sides of container:	Generator's label & either: "Pathology Waste" or "PATH" on lids and sides of container.	Generator's label & either: "Chemo-therapy Waste" or "Chemo" on lids and sides of container.	Hazardous waste label with all required information.
<b>CONSOLIDATION</b>	All these wastes may be consolidated in one common container if treated by extremely high heat technology. Common container must be labeled with the biohazard symbol and the words "HIGH HEAT ONLY"					

### STORAGE TIME LIMITS

Amount of waste stored at room temperature unless otherwise specified	BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE	SHARPS WASTE READY FOR DISPOSAL	PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE READY FOR DISPOSAL	PATHOLOGY WASTE	NON-POURABLE CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE
<20 lbs/month	30 days	7 days	NA	30 days	Manage as sharps or biohazardous waste according to the type of container used for storage.
>20 lbs/month	7 days	7 days	NA	7 days	
>200 lbs/month	7 days	7 days	NA	7 days	
Stored below 0° C (32° F)	90 days	NA	NA	90 days	
>10 lbs/year	NA	NA	90 days	NA	NA
<10 lbs/year	NA	NA	One year	NA	NA

### RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL WASTE GENERATORS

Total Medical waste (all categories) generated is ≥200 lbs /month:	<b>3 years</b>
Limited quantity hauler exemption (LQHE) medical waste tracking documents and onsite treatment records	<b>3 years</b>
Total Medical waste (all categories) generated is less than 200 lbs /month and no LQHE and no onsite treatment	<b>2 years</b>



## MANAGEMENT OF REGULATED WASTES GENERATED BY DENTAL, VETERINARY & MEDICAL PRACTICES

### STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATED MEDICAL WASTE ACCUMULATION AREA:

- ♦ Shall be secured to prevent unauthorized access
- ♦ Shall have warning signs in English and Spanish and be visible during daylight hours from at least 25 feet  
“CAUTION-BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA- UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT”  
“CUIDADO-ZONA DE RESIDUOS-BIOLOGICOS PELIGROSOS-PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS NO AUTORIZADAS”

#### Generator's Label

**Must include this information:**

**Name:** I. M. Sharp, DDS

**Address:** 123 Needle Stick Drive  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Phone #:** (619) 123-4567

#### BIOHAZARD LABEL OR EQUIVALENT



or

**“BIOHAZARDOUS  
WASTE”**

### COMMON HAZARDOUS WASTES GENERATED

HAZARDOUS WASTES	TYPE OF PRACTICE			TREATMENT OPTIONS	
	Dental	Veterinary	Medical	RECYCLING	DISPOSAL AS HAZARDOUS WASTE
Photoprocessing waste	✓	✓	✓	✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Formalin + Ethanol mix (sterilizers)	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓
Cold Sterilants containing Glutaraldehyde (2.7% or greater conc.)	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓*
Cold sterilants containing OPA (Orthophthaldehyde)	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓*
Dental amalgam	✓			✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Pourable Chemotherapy Waste		✓	✓	NA	✓
Universal Waste	✓	✓	✓	✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Lead foil (hazardous if not recycled)	✓			✓ Preferred treatment	✓

\* These wastes may also be treated onsite without a permit using a glycine based treatment. Consult your Area Specialist for more information.